

House Resolution No. 1031

Whereas, the Laborers' International Union of North America traces its roots back to the 1903 call by Samuel Gompers, first President of the American Federation of Labor, to challenge laborers across the country to coordinate and consolidate their activities into one cohesive unit; and

Whereas, twenty-five delegates from seventeen cities representing more than 8,000 laborers subsequently met in Washington, D.C., on April 13, 1903, to form the International Hod Carriers' and Building Laborers' Union of America; and

Whereas, with a membership approaching 100,000 during the Roaring Twenties, the Union added the International Compressed Air and Foundation Workers Union, Tunnel and Subway Constructors International Union, and the International Union of Pavers, Rammermen, Flag Layers, Bridge and Curb Setters and Sheet Asphalt Pavers to its growing roster before suffering through declining membership during the Great Depression; and

Whereas, the arrival of World War II saw the Union's membership soar to 430,000 in 1942, and the 1950s brought Union affiliation with the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Department and the organizing of non-construction workers; and

Whereas, 1965 brought about an official name change to the Laborers' International Union of North America to reflect the continued expansion of the Union beyond the construction field as municipal, state, and university employees signed on, followed by the Mail Handlers Union in 1968; and

Whereas, in 1995 the Laborers' International Union of North America entered into an innovative Oversight Agreement with the U.S. Justice Department to purge corruption and serve as a model for reform; and

Whereas, the state of Missouri is proud of its 12,500 laborers, 18 locals, 2 district councils, and 2 training centers:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to extend congratulations and best wishes to the Laborers' International Union of North America upon the One Hundredth Anniversary of its founding; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the District Councils of the Eastern Missouri Laborers' Union and the Western Missouri and Kansas Laborers' Union.

Offered by _____
Representative Terry Young
District No. 49

Representative Ryan McKenna
District No. 102

Representative Wes Wagner
District No. 104

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 1031, adopted March 20, 2003.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker